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AUG 16 2000

CALFED Bay-Delta Program

August 14, 2000

Mr. Steve Richie, Acting Executive Director
Cal-Fed Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth St. Suite 1155
Sacramento, Ca 95814

Re: Final Programmatic EIS/EIR

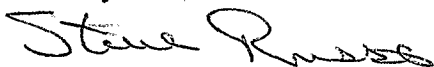
Dear Mr. Richie:

My two partners and myself run a 5,000 acre cattle ranch in Alameda County. I am requesting that you extend the period of comment on the EIS/EIR released on July 21. The average farmer or rancher's free time is limited, and to review this lengthy report in the given time is unreasonable. I also request that there be public hearings so that some of the agricultural community's concerns can be addressed.

One of my main concerns is the amount of productive agricultural land that the plan would eliminate and the affect this will have on California's food production. The plan seems to be more directed to sustaining fish and wildlife with little regards to providing high quality food for the people of California. The government already owns half of California's 100 million acres. Cal-Fed should conduct their habitat program on that land and not take private land. Cal-Fed admits their plan will have "irreversible and irretrievable" impact on almost a quarter-of-a-million acres of California farmland..

The Cal-Fed plan will hurt California. The majority of speakers at the hearing last year were farmers and ranchers and they stated their concerns. It seems that nobody was listening. Maybe if there are new public meetings held they will be heard.

Sincerely:



Steve Russo
577 Jensen Street
Livermore, CA 94550

cc	Senator Dianne Feinstein	Senator Barbara Boxer	Governor Gray Davis
	State Senators:	Representatives:	Assembly Members:
	Liz Figueroa	Barbara Lee	Ellen Corbett
	Don Perata	Fortney Stark	John Dutra
	Richard Rainey	Ellen Tauscher	Lynn Leach
	Alameda County Supervisors:		
	Wilma Chan	Scott Haggerty	
	Mary King	Gail Steele	
	Keith Carson		